

9-3-2002

Current, September 03, 2002

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'One Hour Photo' review

▲ See page 6

THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

SGA elects executive committee for 2002-03

BY ANNE BAUER
Managing Editor

Every year the Student Government Association elects an executive committee to serve the student body throughout the school year. This year's first assembly, which was held at 2 p.m. on Friday, August 30, in the Student Government Chamber on the third floor of the MSC, elected five committee members along with a new chairperson, Courtney Stirrat.

Stirrat, a senior political science major, came to UMSL last fall as a transfer student.

"I want to not only be able to represent what I believe in and things I am interested in, but to help other people and other organizations of totally different beliefs, ideologies, experiences and minds," Stirrat said during her two minutes to discuss her qualifications before the elections for chairperson were held. Stirrat, who received 22 votes, ran against Julie Clifford, a senior communication major who received 21 votes David Dodd, a sophomore international business major, who received 20 votes.

Responsibilities of the SGA assembly chairperson include: chairing all meetings of the assembly, developing the agenda for all meetings, serving as a member of the SGA assembly executive committee and calling for the second meeting of the assembly.

Once Stirrat's victory was announced, she took the podium and presided over the election of the other committee members and the remainder of the meeting. The treasurer, vice-chairperson, parliamentarian and sergeant of arms ran unopposed. For the office of secretary, Jonas Zakour ran against Julie Clifford. Zakour received 36 votes, while Clifford received 20.

Other officers elected

- Treasurer-Michelle Roth
- Secretary-Jonas Zakour
- Vice-Chairperson-Mike White
- Parliamentarian-David Dodd
- Sergeant of Arms-Justin Kimble

Nominations for student court were also taken, though elections will not take place until the next meeting. The court consists of five justices and two alternates.

Justices nominated

- Jennifer Fowler
- Aaron Morgan
- Matt Miller
- Nathan Short
- Joel Fields

Alternates nominated

- Amy Brda
- Adam Schwerdon

Last year's meetings were held on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. According to SGA President Samuel Andemariam, the reason for the change was the lack of attendance due to students' class schedules conflicting.

see SGA ELECTIONS, page 8

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Student organizations show off at EXPO

BY SARA PORTER
Senior Writer

Student organizations crowded around the outside of the Millennium Student Center in booths as curious students walked around with plates of free food and chatted with the people behind the booths at Expo.

The Chancellor's Expo and Picnic took place on Wednesday, September 28, in front of the Millennium Student Center. Many students look upon Expo as a way of getting acquainted with the organizations on campus and finding out more about them.

"I was interested in The Residential Hall Association, PRISM, and thought Student Government was pretty interesting," said Jason Prusha, business. "I live in the halls and would like to be involved with them and SGA was something I've wanted to be in."

Many organizations use Expo as a means of telling people about what they do around campus. Brandy Crusoe, psychology, says that her organization Alpha Kappa Alpha, a sorority for African-American females, promotes unity. "We are involved in the community and we have a strong sense of sisterhood and promote togetherness among African-American Collegiate women," Crusoe said.

Crusoe's fellow member, Ragan Johnson, psychology, says that the best way for potential applicants to get involved is to attend their events. "We are going to have a tea party and social at Washington University," Johnson said. "I would like for people to come to our events."

Other organizations use Expo as a means to acquaint students outside their fields with the

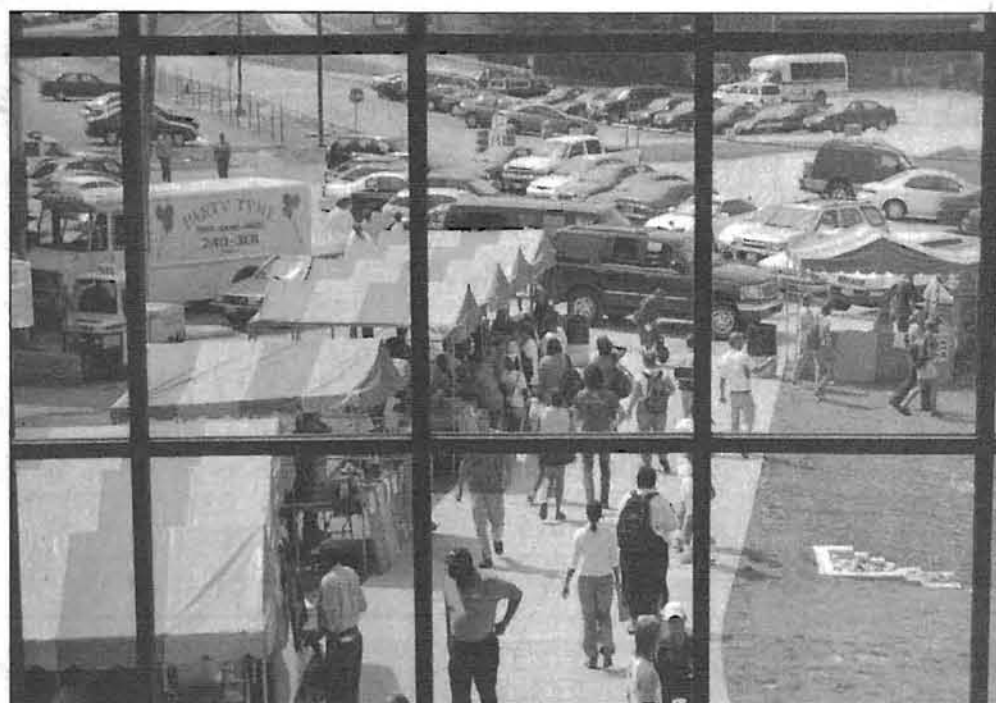
organization. Bernard Feldman, associate dean of Joint Engineering, says that they want to show people what the Society of Future Engineers (SOFE) does. "We show students [what] the field of engineering is like," Feldman said. "We help people get involved in engineering. We have engineers give talks to students about their fields. We also present trips, such as last year [when] we went to Boeing. We want to show students that we exist," Feldman said.

Many organizations wish to dispel common misconceptions about their group. Ariel Canbeao, music education, says that band members are not required to be music majors. "We require that you are proficient in an instrument," Canbeao said, "but we accept people of all majors. You'll be with an organization that gets exposure both on and off campus, and we always have fun," Canbeao said.

Another group that invites people of all majors is the Anthropology Club. "We have people such as business majors who want to learn about the diversity of people," said Stacy Beckenholt, anthropology, whose group has attended historical sites such as Cahokia, Illinois. "We

look at people so as not to say why they do what they do, but to see other cultures." Letitia Wong, a volunteer for the Baptist College Ministries, says that her organization welcomes different people. "We recruit people who wish to find out more about their faith and the Bible," Wong said. "I'm involved in leadership, in particular leading people to God and the Bible."

"I tell people that if they have different religious preferences and are still interested, they are welcome," Wong said. New organizations, such as the Campus Freethought Alliance, use Expo to spread the



Mike Sherwin/The Current



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Above: Students browse the booths at UMSL's Expo celebration Wednesday morning, as seen through the second-floor windows of the MSC.

At left: The Mark Caruselo Quartet, featuring UMSL music professor Don Parker performs outside the MSC during the EXPO celebration.

word about their arrival. "We have been here for about a year and are a group for atheists, agnostics, secular humanists and naturalists," said Al Stanger, math tutor. "We like to have a social group for students who aren't Catholic or Jewish or Muslim," he said of the group, which featured debates and will be attending a meeting with the Freethought groups of Washington and Webster University.

Expo was the final event of Welcome Week, a series of events commemorating the start of the school year.

Faculty worry about resources, not wallets

BY STANFORD GRIFFITH
Editor-in-Chief

"The faculty find themselves trying to do the work of their profession without the resources to do it," Van Reidhead, chairman of the Faculty Senate, said.

Reidhead, who is also chairman of the University Assembly and an associate professor of anthropology,

has interviewed approximately 80 faculty members at UM-St. Louis. One of his concerns is how the budget cuts are affecting them.

He discovered that their first worry was a lack of resources to reach the University's mission three-fold—education, research and community service.

"I see people really digging in and doing the best job in their classes,"

Reidhead said.

However, the University's educational environment is where the "faculty are most negatively impacted," Reidhead said. "As faculty are retiring, they are not being replaced. Departments are shrinking, but the job amount remains the same."

Summing up the workload situation being created by a loss of

workers, Reidhead noted, "Faculty feel an enormous amount of stress. The cuts in higher education have had a mighty impact on faculty."

Of those interviewed, only one brought up the issue of salary.

In FY00, U M - S t . Louis faculty got a \$400 across-the-board raise, according to Jim Knueger, vice chancellor of managerial and technological services. In FY01 and FY02, a four

percent raise was put into a pool and distributed on a merit system. However, this year, FY03, there will be no raises except for those associated with promotions and those receiving tenure.

The budget cuts are also creating a related problem. UM-St. Louis produces more teachers than any other university in the state. "Governor Holden is representing himself as an education governor," Reidhead said. He is increasing money for primary education, but cutting it from higher education. Thus, he is withholding the very money from the secondary-education-level students who are

studying to become the teachers in the primary education classrooms. "We are robbing money from the people going into the system,"

Reidhead concluded.

Missouri is becoming an education exporting state: The number of college students the state is receiving minus the number of students the state is sending to other states for education is a negative number. Reidhead calls this a "brain drain."

"We are seeing our most valuable resources—our children—leaving the state," Reidhead said. "People tend to stay very close to the places they received their education. That is a somewhat frightening scenario in an education-based economy."

Reidhead sees part of our problem as a lack of knowledge, not appreciation, of education.

"I don't want to say we don't value education in Missouri, because we do," Reidhead explained. "But we don't understand education. We have to rethink what quality education means and what it requires."

Spending Reduction Programs	UMSL	UMC	UMKC	UMR
Workforce Reduction*	\$1,496,674	\$5,450,219	\$2,383,093	\$1,431,173
Education Fee Surcharge*	\$2,106,666	\$5,354,730	\$2,074,824	\$1,062,540
Fund Balances*	\$737,014	\$5,000,686	\$2,453,054	\$1,656,690
FY02 Expenditure Reduction	\$287,369	\$1,046,472	\$457,567	\$274,793
Amount each UM campus must recover due to state budget cuts to the UM System	\$4,627,723	\$16,852,107	\$7,368,538	\$4,425,196

* projected savings

Stanford Griffith/The Current

In the above model, the sum of the workforce reduction, education fee surcharge, fund balances and FY02 expenditure reduction must equal the amount each UM campus must recover due to state budget cuts to the UM System earlier this year-FY 03.

The workforce reduction amount depends on the number who take early retirement by

September 31. The education fee surcharge (\$9 per credit hour at UM-St. Louis) depends on the total number of hours students are carry at the university. The FY02 expenditure reduction was money saved at the end of the last fiscal year. The fund balances will be the remaining balance.

The exact figures will not be known until later this year.

Bullet In Board

Put it on the Board:
The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m., every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Editor's Desk, 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121, or fax 516-6811.
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

September Thru Sept. 28 Gallery 210

Gallery 210 presents "The Distant Relatives of Johnny Naugahyde" from August 22 to Sept. 28. The Gallery is located in Lucas Hall. Gallery hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more info. call 516-5976.

Tues 3 Newman Center

The Catholic Newman Center will be hosting an Open House from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mass at 7:30 p.m. will follow. The CNC is located at 8200 Natural Bridge Rd. across from the West Dr. entrance into North Campus. Call 385-3455 for more information.

Tues 3 (cont.) International Honor Society

Golden Key International Honor Society will be having a meeting with Mary DeVilliers, our central regional director, in the Golden Key cubicle on the 3rd floor in the MSC. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

Wed 4 Interfaith Ministry

The Interfaith Campus Ministry office will be having an Open House from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please stop by room 180 of the MSC, located between Multicultural Relations and Gallery Viso.

Wed 4 (cont.) Mercantile Library

From 12 noon to 1 p.m. there will be a Mercantile Library Lunch and Lecture featuring Elizabeth Gentry Sayad. The event will be held in the Century Room of the MSC. The event is open to the public. The fee for the event is \$12.50 for library members and \$15 for non-members. For more information call Laura Diel at 516-7240.

Thur 5 Student Activities

HIV-positive Playmate Rebekka Armstrong, a former Playboy Playmate, will discuss her life at 6:30 p.m. in the Pilot House in the MSC. Armstrong now dedicates herself to preventing others from making the mistakes of having unsafe sex and using drugs.

Thur 5 (cont.) Student Activities

An Open Mic will be held in The Nosh from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Singers, poets, rappers, performers of all stripes - come show your stuff! Come and impress your friends.

Fri 6 Newman Center

There is a Catholic Mass every Friday at 12:05 p.m. at the Catholic Newman Center followed by a free soup lunch.

6 Career Services

From 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. there will be an Interviewing Techniques Workshop in room 327 of the MSC. For more information call Career Services at 516-5111.

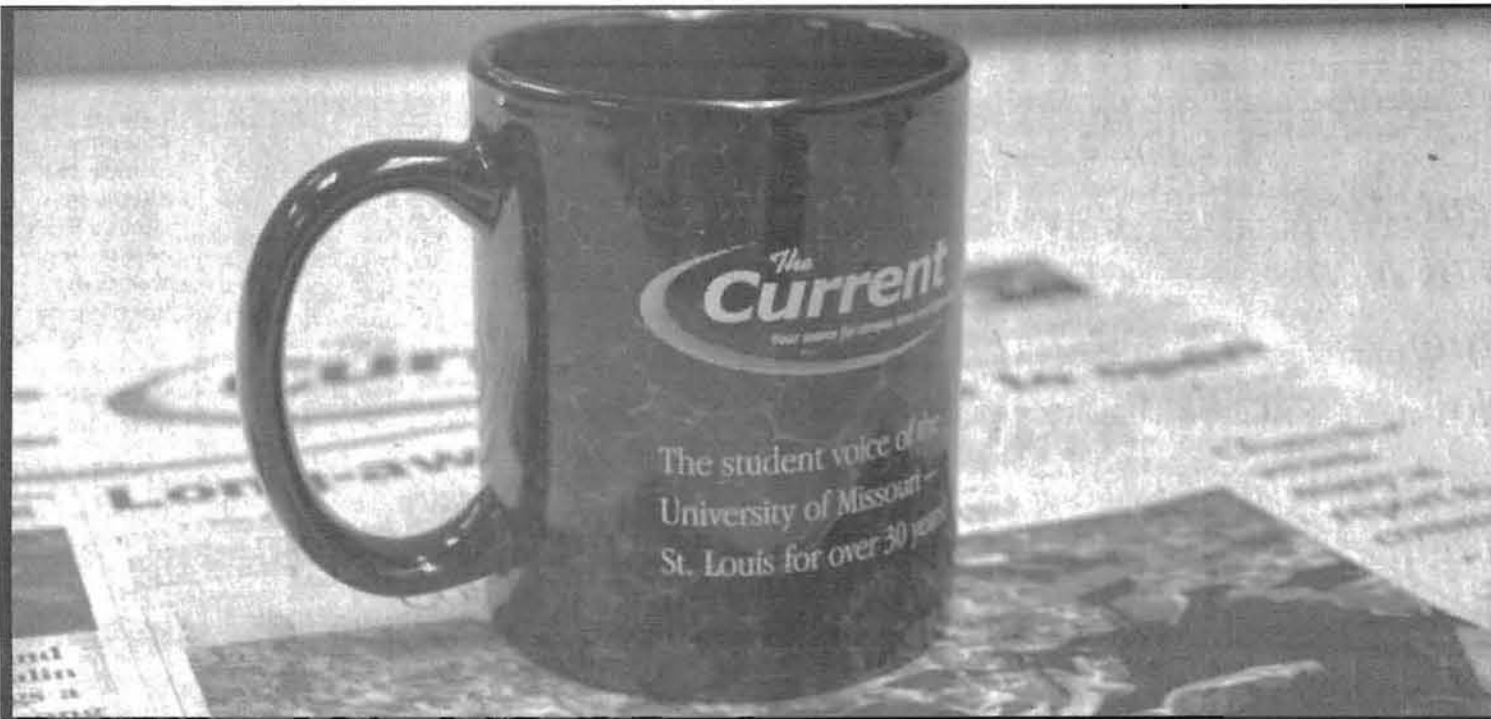
Sat 7 & Mon 9 Continuing Ed.

A Beading and Jewelry Workshop will be held at Pattonville High School on Saturday, Sept. 7 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Monday, Sept. 9 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The session will be instructed by Susan Fitzsimmons. The fee to attend is \$10. Each class is limited to 10 participants. Those who participate will be sent a list of supplies to bring to the workshop. To register, call 516-5974.

Wed 11 Student Activities

A 9/11 Memorial will be held in the Pilot House at 12 noon. Join other students, staff, faculty and community members as we reflect on last year's events and pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the 9/11 tragedy.

Put it on the Board! Place your event on The Board in our upcoming edition; restrictions apply. Call 516-5174 for information.



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Attention Students!

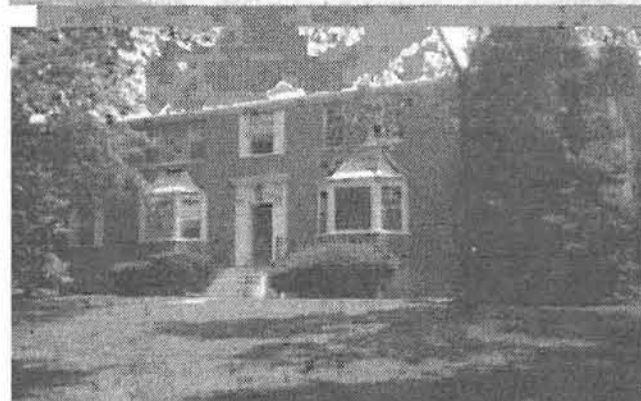
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6:00 a.m.	AEROBIC Class Levels		SPIN with Jim		SPIN with Jim	
9:00 a.m.	Multi-Level Beginner Intermediate Advanced	S.W.E.T. 45 min. w/Rae (M)		S.W.E.T. 45 min. w/Rae (M)		
10:00 a.m.						Weight Training with Tabitha (M)
11:00 a.m.		SPIN with Jeff		SPIN with Jeff	Cardio Kickboxing with Heather	Strength and Flexibility with Tabitha (M)
12:00 p.m.	Piloga with Carol (I,A)		Combo Lo/Hi with Diane (I,A)			
12:15 p.m.		Step with Carol (M)		Power Pump with Carol (M)		
12:30 p.m.				Yoga with Melissa (M)	SPIN with Rick	
1:00 p.m.			P.A.C.E. 219/Melissa (M)			
1:15 p.m.	SPIN with Rick		SPIN with Diane			
1:30 p.m.			Yoga 90 min. w/Melissa (M)		Piloga with Melissa (M)	
2:00 p.m.						
2:30 p.m.					Step 30 min. w/Melissa (I)	
4:30 p.m.	Total Body Toning 45 min. w/Rae (M)	Begin to SPIN with Rae	Total Body Toning 45 min. w/Rae (M)			
5:30 p.m.	W.E.T. with Rae (M)	W.E.T. with Rae (M)	W.E.T. with Rae (M)	W.E.T. with Rae (M)		
	SPIN with Jim	Cardio Funk with Heather (M)		Step Interval with Heather (M)		

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Omnimax movie offers insight into misunderstood predator

SARA PORTER

Staff Writer

If you are the type of person who never misses a National Geographic or nature special on PBS, then you might enjoy the newest Omnimax movie, "Bears."

That's not to say other people wouldn't like it. But animal lovers may get more enjoyment than others out of seeing bears standing a hundred feet tall in the newest Omnimax film at the Science Center.

The film opens with a dazzling look at the constellation Ursa Major as it spins around and takes the form of an approaching bear. Then the narrator explains how Native American tribes often looked on the bear as a protector or herald to the spirit world.

The audience is then shown a more earth-bound segment as guide Chris Day takes a small group, and the audience, on a virtual tour of bears in their natural habitat. First, we see a family of grizzlies in Montana going on a hunting excursion. Then, we see a mother black bear in Canada, nursing her cubs and taking them on their first outing.

Then we see two polar bears in Alaska scavenging for food in the "famine season" of late winter, when the salmon haven't appeared yet. We then return to the grizzlies, who are obviously Day's favorites, as they interact with each other and their visitors, which include a stubborn wolf.

The bears are seen as both adorable and fierce creatures. They are shown playing with each other, going for swims and teaching their

cubs how to survive in the wild. One sweet scene shows a black bear cub trying to walk up a tree for the first time.

They are also treated with the utmost respect in this film. We see the bears looking sweet and peaceful, but also threatening. In one scene a grizzly faces down and wins against a violent-looking wolf.

Guide Chris Day does a wonderful job of showing the bears in their native habitat and pointing out facts about them. Instead of being preachy about their survival, she is the type of person who would prefer to show the bears and let them speak for themselves. It does her and director, David Lickly, credit that they allow the bears to be the real natural stars of the show instead of themselves.

Viewers who are new to the Omnimax or have trouble with the faster paced films will be glad to know that as though this movie features some interesting angles, there aren't as many odd angles as in other films. It moves at a slower pace than most other Omnimax films.

But, still, the audience is invited to see some breathtaking aerial views of the wilderness of North America, underwater as a bear goes for a swim and even, in the film's best shot, under an ice floe as a polar bear tries to get meat. "Bears" is a film that is a feast for the eyes and might give the viewer a new insight into the animal that is most known as a stuffed toy; bears are not always cute and cuddly.



Photo courtesy of Primesco and the National Wildlife Federation

Two polar bears play around in the Arctic Circle. 'Bears' will be showing at the St. Louis Science Center Omnimax theatre.

Faculty members go back to school

MICAH ISSITT

Staff Writer

Seven UM-St. Louis administrators have been selected to take part in this year's University of Missouri Leadership Development Program (LDP). Instructors and administrators from all four University of Missouri campuses will meet this year to discuss new strategies and techniques of effective leadership and administration.

The program kicks off this year with a four-day session, from September 30 to October 3, at the Lodge of the Four Seasons at the Lake of the Ozarks. There, members from the University campuses will attend day-long meetings to participate in discussions on leadership problems and solutions. The program will include demonstrative case studies and testimonials, as well as discussions of leadership models and theories.

Following the intensive four-day meeting, the representatives will meet once every three months for the remainder of the year at one of the University campuses for discussions concentrating on specific leadership topics. In addition, attendees from the UM-St. Louis staff will meet once a month with the attendees from previous years for a series of lunch meetings to discuss local initiatives and concerns.

One of the UM-St. Louis staff members who has been nominated and selected for participation in this year's LDP is Teresa Thiel, Associate Dean of the Arts and Science program. Thiel said that several of her colleagues have attended the program in previous years and have found the program's content interesting and useful for their job develop-

ment. Thiel said she "hopes to gain skills in dealing with administrative problems and problem situations."

Another nominee, Dennis Bohnenkamp, Associate Dean of Pierre LaCade Honors College, has definite goals for this year's LDP.

Bohnenkamp said that, when he became a teacher, he had no intention of being in an administrative leadership role, but found himself falling into that position.

Bohnenkamp went on to say, "Lots of people come into leadership from teaching, and they need to learn more about that unexpected aspect of their profession." Bohnenkamp hopes that his participation in the LDP will help him to become more systematic about the leadership portion of his job. He looks forward to meeting with other colleagues who face the same challenges, giving the group an opportunity to share secrets and strategies for success in leadership.

This year will mark the third anniversary of the LDP, and the third year that UM-St. Louis faculty members have been selected to take part in the program. The leadership development program is one of a handful of initiatives developed by the President's Academic Leadership Institute (PALI), an organization developed to study and implement leadership development initiatives. Manuel T. Pacheco, president of the UM System, founded the committee that created PALI in 1998.

Past participants of the program have reported positive personal growth as a result of their attendance. Many feel that the program is a step in the right direction with regard to developing a more effective and positive leadership base for the University of Missouri faculty.

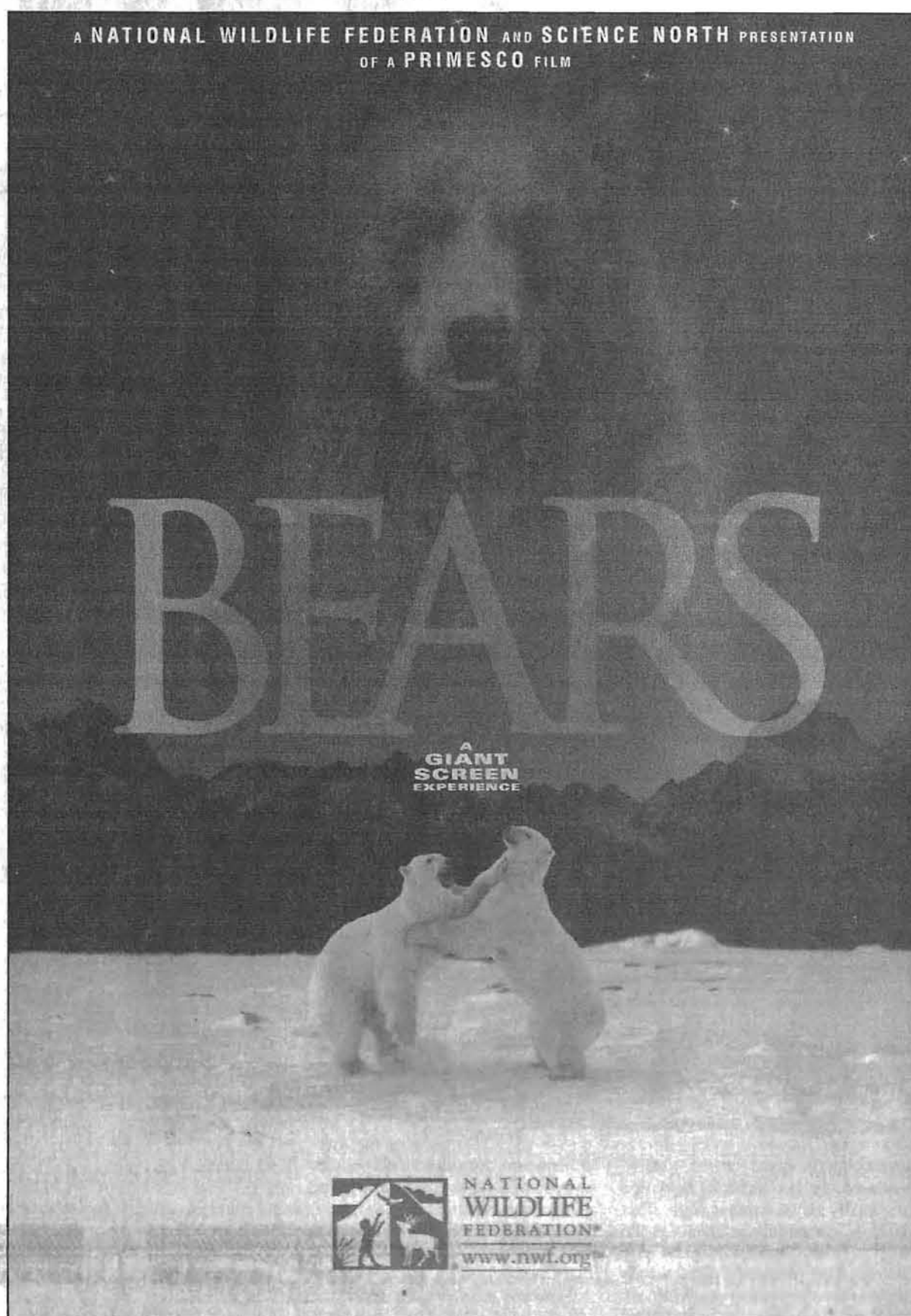


Photo courtesy of Primesco and the National Wildlife Federation

The St. Louis Science Center presents 'Bears,' a look at the endangered species and their habitats. 'Bears' is running September 6 through January 2. The movie, which is playing at the Omnimax theatre, offers patrons a chance to experience life in the wild with bears. Amongst the featured animals are the grizzly bear and the polar bear. The film focuses on the misconceptions and rumors surrounding bears, their mythic stature and the frailty of their existence. The Science Center is also offering the 'Beary Scary Halloween Party' October 18 and 19.

Freshmen experience challenging first day

MELISSA MCCRARY

Staff Writer

On Wednesday, August 21, UM-St. Louis began its first day of the fall semester, which was a first time college experience for many students. Many mixed emotions were expressed by freshmen and other new students.

While the majority of students rushed to their classes, others stood staring at the buildings with a sense of confusion.

"The first day of classes was pretty scary because there were so many people and so many different classes," freshman Minnette Huck said. "College is completely different than high school. I really miss the old days when we had lockers to put our heavy

books in."

As the day went on, more new students started to get the hang of how college life will be. However, throughout the last week some students have still reported their concerns and worries.

"I am still dumbfounded and sometimes still find myself lost," freshman Joe Fielder said.

With the numerous amount of classes offered comes the variety of books that one must carry. It's not the difficulty of a course that could be a dilemma; it's the walking back and forth from building to building, hauling around all that weight that could be the ultimate challenge.

"By the time the semester is over,

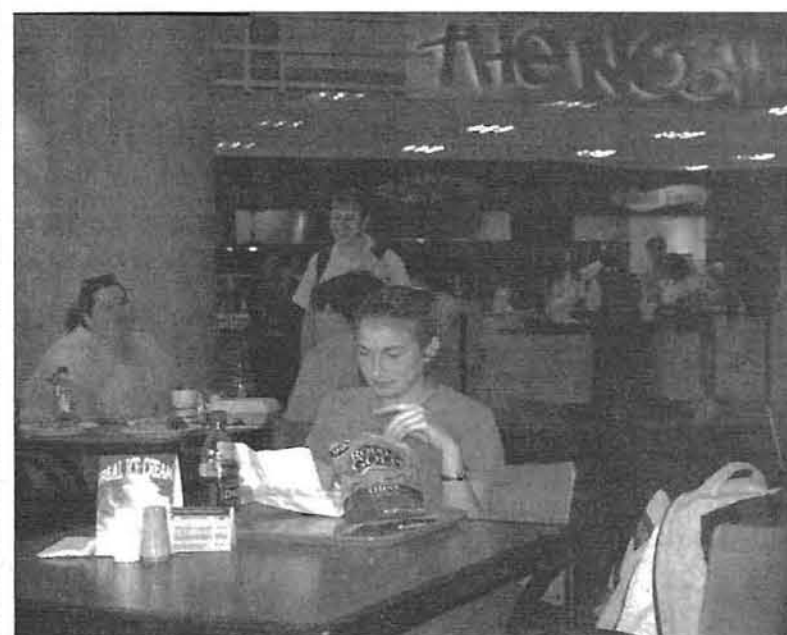
I'll be so strong that I could probably lift a Volkswagen," freshman Lacy Barcheck said.

The pleasure of living in a dorm or on campus has many advantages to new students. This residential service has given students the opportunity to become more familiar with the area and meet new friends. Most importantly, residential living beats commuting. Some students have to drive 30 minutes or more to come to school everyday.

On Wednesday, August 7, students were able to start purchasing their books. To new students this was another experience to be learned. With over 1,000 books at the bookstore and many course numbers, digging through each shelf took quite some time. Then there is the cost of each book. Some textbooks are more expensive than others. Even now, two weeks after school has started, some students are left without their books because the book store has sold out or hasn't received all of the ordered materials.

"I went to buy my books the Friday before school started, and there were many people purchasing their books. Finding the books wasn't too hard because the lady who worked there was very helpful. Because my books were brand new and there was not that many used copies, my books were very expensive," freshman Charles Troupe said.

Most of the students have admitted to actually liking the courses that they have registered for. There doesn't seem to have been an extreme amount of complaints or resentment towards the courses chosen.



Kevin Ottley/The Current

Freshman Tegan Viggers has a quick snack at The Nosh cafeteria in the MSC while she looks over her course schedule.

see FRESHMEN, page 10

HUMANITIES

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Features Editor

phone: 516-4886

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Cultural lectures enlighten students, expand horizons

MICHELLE ELKINS

Staff Writer

The Monday Noon Cultural Series is a time when students, faculty and the community can take a cultural break.

Created by the department of Humanities, the series presents diverse individuals stemming from a wide range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds contributing their talent and expertise in an intimate setting. Subjects range from art and music to politics and social conditions.

Highlighting the excellence of the UM-St. Louis faculty and local experts, the series consists of twelve to thirteen Monday programs each semester. Each session features someone exhibiting his or her works with a Q & A session afterwards. Taking place each Monday in room 229 of the J.C. Penny building from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., all sessions are free and open to the public. Guests are welcome to bring their lunch. This semester brings a vast array of talent and commentary.

Make Monday a day out of the ordinary to explore and to stimulate your mind with culture. The sessions begin September 9 with "The Distant Relative of Johnny Naugahyde-An Artist's Slide Talk." Mark Spencer talks about his collages in Gallery 210, a visual narrative of an imaginary family from the mid nineteenth century to the present.

Call Karen Lucas at 516-5699 for further information on any session.

OPINION

EDITORIAL BOARD

STANFORD GRIFFITH
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"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the editorial board

LETTERS

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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity, length and grammar. All letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number. Students should also include their student ID number. Faculty and staff should include their title(s) and department(s).

Under Current
by Mike Sherwin
Photography Associate

What is love?

OUR OPINION

Watch out for the UMSL pitfalls *Part II*

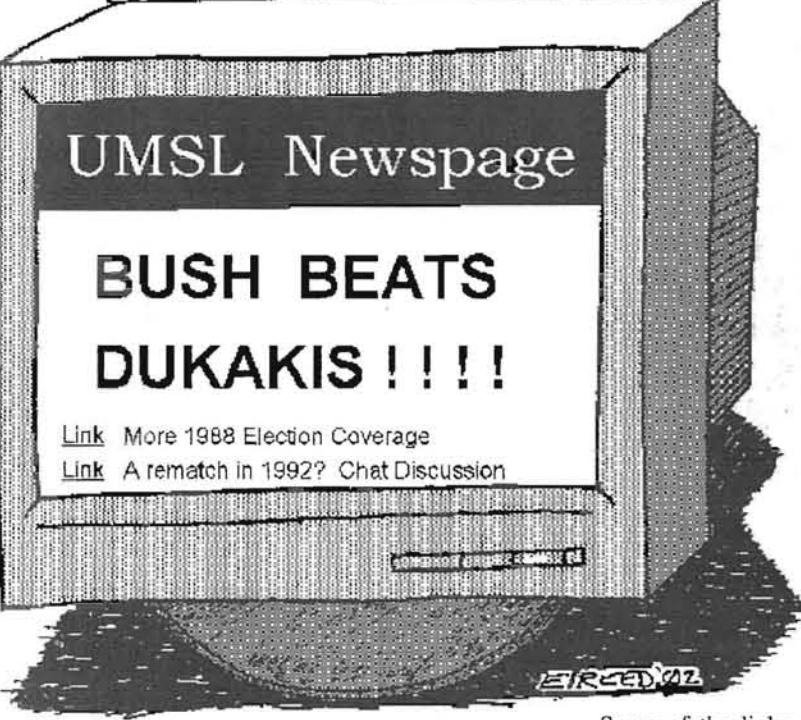
Continuing with our "warnings" from last week, we wanted to explore two more campus problems to avoid. We also wanted to conclude with something that too many students miss.

Food
Eating on campus can be trying. First, the hours of operation of food services are short and student unfriendly. When The Nosh, Aroma's, the C-Store and the U-Mart are closed, the only open food service on campus is the vending machines, if you can actually call that "service." At least most of the employees are friendly and helpful.

vending machine and at any of Chartwells' services, why not save the money?

Seaking of vending machines, they can be dangerous. Many never seem to be refilled, so they are empty or contain inedible processed products. We're still not sure why some of the chocolate from the vending machines is growing mold.

UMSL.edu
The University online employee directory and phone book contains many dead links and old contact information. Thus, contacting a professor or administrator can be difficult.



Pricing is high for the quality. Let's be blunt; Chartwells holds the monopoly of on-campus food. This lack of competition allows for the high prices and small portions of food served. This monopoly also extends to any on-campus catering. While we realize that a certain cost is associated with the convenience of on-campus dining (when it's available), the University is not that far from other food options. Chartwells does not accept credit cards, debit cards or other forms of "plastic" payment, nor does it accept checks. So if you're out of cash, you're out of luck and out of food.

An interesting, money-saving tip: Sodas cost \$1.09 without tax in the C-Store. That translates into \$1.16 with tax. The same 20-ounce plastic bottles of soda can be purchased for exactly \$1 from the vending machines. Sixteen cents isn't much, but it does add up. Hey, it's about the cost of two fries from The Nosh. Since you can only use cash at the

Some of the links to important documents and policies supposedly available via the website are also non-existent. Much of the information on umsl.edu is also outdated, especially lists of vital University committees.

When we have called to report the link, we were actually told by a computing services employee, "We're lazy over here. It might be a month or so before it's fixed."

The Pilot House
Opened with much anticipation and gusto, The Pilot House now sits empty most of the time. Originally the converted shell space in the back of the first floor of the MSC was supposed to act as an on-campus bar and serve liquor. Now it doesn't, and few go there. But even if you don't go there to hang out with friends, it's definitely worth a trip just to view the artwork in it. Of course, since the attendance is so low there, The Pilot House is also probably a good place to study.

The issue
Last week we presented you with several UM-St. Louis problems-parking, geese and escalators. This week we wanted to look at two issues that can be easily fixed with little work-food and the University's homepage. Also, we wanted to conclude with something not to miss-The Pilot House.

We suggest
Updating UMSL.edu just times time and effort. An easy way to report dead links and out-dated information on the web-site would be a good start. Fixing them would be even better.
Food services is more tricky because of the contract, but we are sure that certain adjustments could be made to ensure customer satisfaction.

So what do you think?
Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC, or online at our website: thecurrentonline.com.

What's your opinion?

How do you feel about the topics we've written about?

- Pitfalls around campus
- Being involved on campus
- Student Government Elections

You can make *your* voice heard in a variety of ways!

- Submit a Letter to the Editor
- Write a Guest Commentary
- Visit the Online Forums at TheCurrentOnline.com

A little more time please

When we elect officials to high offices, we want to be certain we have the right person for the job. That's nothing more than common sense. Our methods for making that selection are pretty standardized too: The nominees get some press time, get to campaign, get to field some questions and maybe even get endorsed/unendorsed by the media.

On Friday, August 30, that didn't happen in the SGA Chambers. Well, the election of the executive committee did. Just the rest didn't.

After the opening remarks, three nominations for president of the committee were yelled out. Then they had a scant few minutes to speak. Next the SGA representatives openly debated. Then the candidates were allowed a tiny bit more time to say two more sentences. Then we voted. End of election process.

So how were we supposed to make a firm decision to vote to for the best candidate for the job? Apparently, we weren't.

I fully realize that according to SGA's constitution the executive committee must be formed during the first SGA meeting. However, why weren't the candidates allowed more time prior to that meeting to announce platforms and campaign?

The Current certainly would have appreciated the chance to endorse a candidate for office. I think our student readers would have valued that as well.

Democracy only works when the voters are allowed to make an informed decision. I really do not

believe we had adequate time to do so. The closeness of the votes is proof of this. While only one person got the job, there was no clear winner; the votes were just too close to demonstrate a majority voice among the representatives. The votes also show that all three candidates were equally supported.

Please note that I'm not trying to say that Courtney Stirrat should not have been elected president. I'm certain she will do well. But based on what I witnessed, I cannot determine which candidate would have made the best, or for that matter the worst, president.

The decision to elect anyone felt rushed and unorganized. Giving the candidates time to campaign would have helped in the selection process.

All the blame doesn't belong to the top SGA officers either. Simply announcing to all students that an election was going to be held for the executive committee during the first SGA meeting should have given candidates enough time to campaign. So why didn't that happen? I am aware of no election laws for the committee's election. We have them in place for the University-wide SGA elections in the spring but not for those in the fall. Surely the committee is not so far below the officers that they cannot be allowed to campaign.

The Student Court will be elected on September 27. Hopefully they allowed time to campaign and openly debate. The Current is open to helping organize such a debate for the candidates.



STANFORD GRIFFITH
Editor-in-Chief

College is about being involved, meeting people

Now that students have had over a week to move in, get class schedules situated, buy textbooks and calm their nerves from all the beginning-of-a-new-semester stress, there is one thing left to do. Get involved on campus.

From what I have seen, the majority of UM-St. Louis students are commuters with part-time, if not full-time, jobs, a full class schedule and family and friends to pencil into their hectic schedules. But, this is college, which means new experiences and meeting a bunch of new people. You just don't meet new people by chance. Sometimes you have to find them.

For those of you who go straight from the parking lot to class and then make a run for your car, stop. Slow down. Look around a little. Opportunity awaits you.

For starters, university clubs and organizations are great ways to meet new people. It is comforting to walk across campus and to see familiar faces. Instead, many go through college without really getting to know anyone because they were never involved in anything. Whatever your major is, there is probably an organization on campus with a handful of members that have similar classes or interests as you. Or, join a fraternity or sorority, where there are tons of people to meet, activities to help plan and parties to go to.

Furthermore, being involved in an organization looks great on a resume. The more things that you are

involved in the better. Involvement shows employers that you can work well with others, manage your time well and that you have leadership qualities. Even if you are not the head of an organization, if you are involved, you are more of a leader than those that choose not to join a group. Also, being a member of a group opens doors to grants and scholarships that may help lessen the burden of tuition and those darn parking passes that cost an arm and a leg.

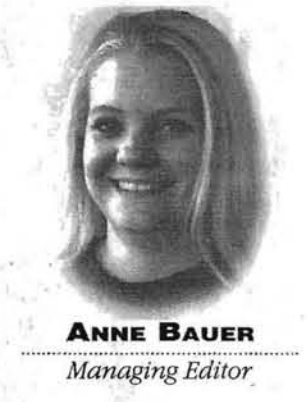
Or, you could meet new people and earn credit towards your degree at the same time. Many programs require a practicum or internship order to graduate. So, talk to Career Services or your instructor for help in finding an internship.

Other than adding lines to your resume, being in a club or organization is experience for the world that awaits you after college. Learning to work with people you like, and others that you don't even

like all that much, is something that we all have to get used to.

Once college is over, the opportunity to meet people gets smaller and smaller. Working at the same job every day and with the same people can slow down one's social life.

Now, I know that many of you are smart and don't need to be told that being involved is a good experience. I have found that many people know what they need to do in most situations, but sometimes need someone to tell them what to do. So here is your push. It is a new school year, so do something new.



ANNE BAUER
Managing Editor



Cheryl Bergin-Sherman
Sophomore
Optometry

“
Love is commitment.
”



Chris Niemeyer
Reference Librarian

“
Love is vice and a virtue.
”



Starlethia Edwards
Campus Visitor

“
Love is beautiful for those who know what love is.
”



Sara Quiroz
Senior
Art History

“
Love and drinking. That goes together well.
”

Miners dig a hole for R-Men

UMSL drops season opener at home to Rolla 3-1, game is disappointment for Coach King

UM-St. Louis Rivermen Soccer

BY HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

If someone had told UM-St. Louis midfielder Allen Jujic that his goal – an indirect kick that found it's way past the UM-Rolla goalie – would be the only goal of the night for the Rivermen, he and his teammates may very well have been taken aback. Well, that is exactly how the scenario played out for the Rivermen soccer team during their Aug. 30 opener at home as they suffered a 3-1 loss to the UM-Rolla Miners.

Miners Head Coach Vince Darnell knew the intent of his squad was to make up for a 1-0 defeat they suffered at home to the Rivermen last season.

"They were gunning for the first game of the season to get back at them," Darnell said. "...These guys looked pretty good from the start. I think it's our time for our boys to shine. They wanted to play. They haven't played a real match yet. We've had exhibitions, but I think our first game against a team that we lost to last year really gave them a test to see what they could do."

Although the two teams ended up equaling each other in the shots on goal category with 13, the Rivermen offense was relatively quiet in the first period as compared with that of the Miners who took the majority of their shots and scored all of their goals in the first period.

The first goal came with 25:10 on the clock in the first period as Miners forward Ryan Coates scored off

Rivermen goalie Campbell McLaurin. Although the Rivermen did make some noise with several shots on goal before and after the first Miners goal, they did not make it up onto the board until after the Miners scored their final two goals of the game in the first period. Midfielder Allen Jujic scored on an indirect kick with just under five minutes left in the first period.

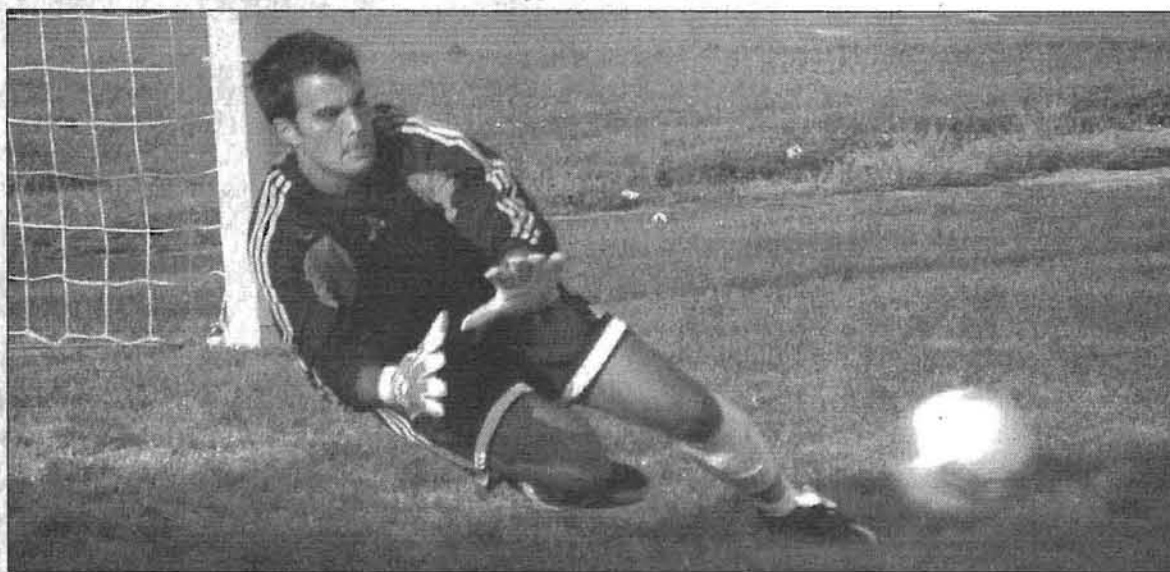
"We need to come out and do things well ourselves and not worry about the other team," UM-St. Louis Head Coach Dan King said of his team's first period performance. "I think we didn't come out and establish authority, defensively. When we work hard defensively and turn the ball over in the midfield section that turns into a scoring opportunity. We didn't do that."

The tide started to change in the second period for the Rivermen, as they were able to stave off the Miners offense. The Miners, who overpowered the Rivermen defense in the first half, began to lose their momentum.

"We had a lapse there," Darnell said. "Our guys kind of got tired. I think it's kind of like they had to adjust and the field gets a little wet and the ball skips. Guys don't take into consideration that kind of condition, so they made up for it though at the end."

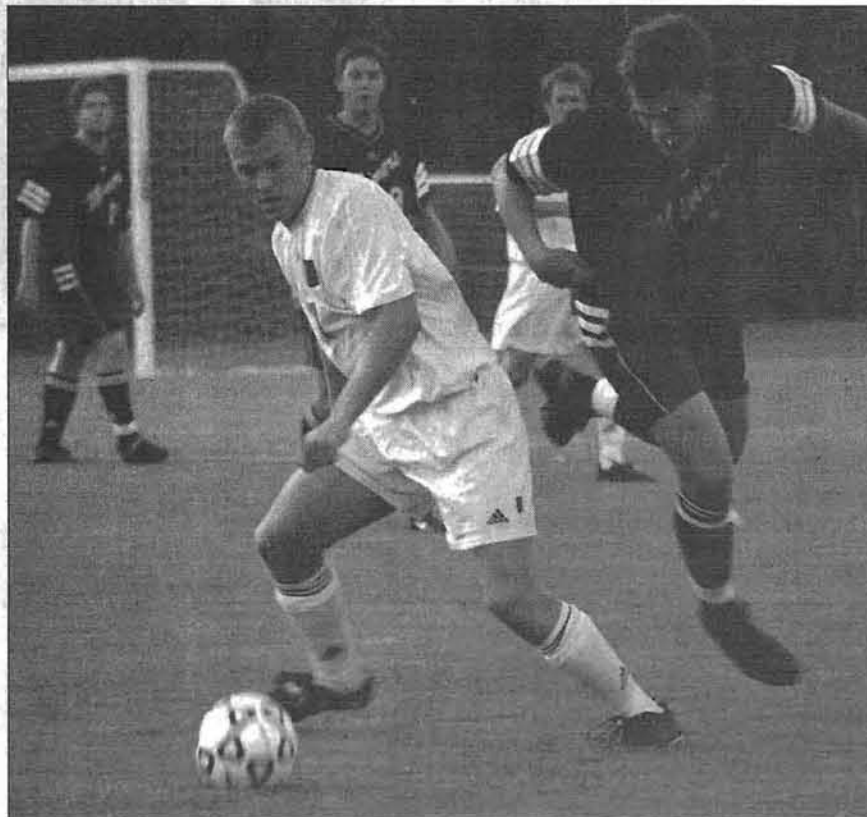
Although the Miners offense began to weaken in the second period, the Rivermen were not able to improve their performance in the second

"I can't really be happy with the second half either," King said. "On our home field here, we need to step it up. We haven't had a good record here and we needed to score that second goal to make it 3-2 and never did. We came out and had a couple chances early, but they didn't materialize."



Steve Seaback/The Current

Above: Rivermen goalie Adam Barnstead lunges for the ball during the team's final exhibition game on Aug. 25.



Emily Fishman/The Current

Right: Rivermen forward Jeff Stegman attempts to take possession of the ball and pass it to any available teammate during the Aug. 30 season opener.

UMSL defender Pat Shelton hopes to lead his team to victory in the '02 season

UM-St. Louis Rivermen Soccer

BY HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

Through the course of a season, for the most part, each team exhibits its strengths as prominently as it exhibits its weaknesses. Whether a winning team or a losing team, each squad has specialties that are unique to other teams. This season, the UM-St. Louis men's soccer team has the possibility to exhibit a major defensive strength. The Rivermen defensive line, which at times last season seemed to be more of a weak point than a strong point, should definitely be a point of authority with senior defenseman and team captain Pat Shelton at the helm.

For Shelton, this year will be a chance to end one promising season better than way another – the 2001 season – was finished off.

"Last year we had a real nice team," Shelton said of the 2001 Rivermen, who finished with a 5-10-2

record. "We struggled at times and couldn't finish off the game, but I liked the results that we had, even though we didn't really win as many games as we should've. We've got a lot of good returning players this year and this year's looking a lot more promising."

The team is promising indeed. A strong, veteran defensive line backs up Shelton, and contains just one underclassman. Shelton acknowledges that, although he has the ability make an impact in many ways, the needs of his team outweigh his own.

"As a player, I'm strong defensively," Shelton said. "I can attack well - getting along with the offensive attack. Other than that, it's more of a team effort than a one player effort."

Last season, Shelton made major contributions to his team with playing in and starting all 17 Rivermen games. Rivermen Head Coach Dan King acknowledged that, although Shelton is a strong defender and a strong single athlete, his major concern is for his team and his work ethic exhibits that.

"He's definitely one of the top defenders in the GLVC, by far," King said. "There's no one that outworks Pat. He's strong, very good with the ball, one of those leaders that leads by

example. He's not going to say a lot to anybody."

"He comes out and works hard and that's his stamp on the game is working hard and coming to play and coming to win, not making excuses for anything. That's Pat. That's why he's a captain."

In order to improve and possibly gain the inspiration to do so, Shelton may tap into some earlier playing experiences, which include winning back-to-back Missouri State High School Soccer Championships in his junior and senior years of high school.

"Most players don't get to play on a team where they end their season on a winning note - a championship," Shelton said of the championship runs with St. Thomas Aquinas. "There's nothing like winning the state championship."

Whether his teams win or lose, Shelton is definitely pleased to be a part of the Rivermen squad and end his collegiate career with the Rivermen.

"I just love playing the game," Shelton said. "I'm happy with the abilities I have as a player. I love playing with all the teammates that I've played with and it's just a fun game to play."



Hank Burns/The Current

Rivermen defender Pat Shelton takes a shot during one of the team's practices. The Rivermen practice at St. Vincent's park, which is located several minutes away from the UM-St. Louis main campus.

R-women strive to compete in GLVC

UM-St. Louis Riverwomen Tennis

BY HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

For most collegiate teams, finishing near the top of the conference is always a major goal. And, the UM-St. Louis women's tennis team does not look at a goal such as this as unattainable in the 2002 season.

Although the Riverwomen will be without the services of former number one player Casey Skaggs, who transferred to the University of Louisville, the team's roster will not at all be left desolate.

Laden with four key returning players and several incoming freshmen starters, the Riverwomen should make a run for the top five in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, as Head Coach Rick Gyllenberg predicts.

"I don't see us dropping lower than we were, fighting for fifth or sixth," Gyllenberg said, of his team's possible conference standings. "I absolutely don't see us dropping below that level...If things go well, our goal is to make four. Top two or three, we're not ready for, but I think we could get in for that top four."

"Another goal, we were 6-8 in the fall last year, we would like to be .500 [winning percentage] or better and if we finish top four in the conference we will. That'll just work itself out. That's where we'd like to be and that's where

I think we'll be, is top four or five."

Devin Foy played the highest of the returning Riverwomen after coming off of shoulder surgery early last season and should lead the '02 squad. Gyllenberg said that he is "expecting big things from her." Chrissy Duff, Katie Duffy and Lauren Spangler, who according to Gyllenberg "were all key in what we thought was a good first year of women's tennis here for a few years," will return to either move up and fill the gap left over by parting teammates or reclaim the positions they held last season.

Although the team will also be without the services of high player in Christy Bronson, who decided not to play this season, Gyllenberg is confident in his team's ability to compete.

"After one week of practice, the other three returners have shown us vast improvement since the spring season so we're looking for them to do very well," Gyllenberg said.

So, the squad will now take their game on the road to face several of their conference foes, including teams such as SIU-Edwardsville, Bellarmine, Indianapolis and Northern Kentucky.

"A lot of it is going to depend on the new girls, to be honest with you," Gyllenberg said, of the road trip. "Three of the four girls are in the starting lineup and we expect to be immediate impact players. So where we lost a dominating player at one, we feel that we've got more depth in the middle. We also feel that we've improved immensely in doubles and that was, by far, our weakness last year. ...So I think we can compete with all of them, whether we go 4-0 or 0-4. I think we'll be competitive in all four matches."



Emily Fishman/The Current

Baseball's new deal saves the day, proclaims team equity



THE ABCS OF SPORTS

HANK BURNS
HFLB4@juno.com

Under normal circumstances, I try to keep my journalistic nose to the UM-St. Louis grindstone. However, recent off-campus developments mandate that I speak out on a more pressing issue. A couple of weeks ago, I wrote about the equality and importance of each sport on this campus, as well as each individual team. I said that they all have something important to offer and some important lessons to teach us. Well, the same goes with each of Major League Baseball's 30 teams. As a possible Major League Baseball Players Association strike was averted on Aug. 30, so was the possible break up of a diverse family of ball clubs.

It is my firm belief that, in the MLB,

each team does matter. A team such as the Montreal Expos, though in recent years they have had great on-field failings, are in many ways as important as a team such as the New York Yankees. Money most certainly does matter and if crowds do not come to see a team as much as they would come to see the St. Louis Cardinals or the Yankees, the money is obviously not making a large presence. But, in the case of many ball clubs – the Cardinals and even the Yankees being two – attendance works itself out in cycles. When a great team is on the field, fans will obviously come. But, when that once great team is struggling, fans will not make their sometimes-large presence felt for

weeks, months and even years – such as in the case of Montreal.

The Expos are an unusual ball club, because they continually build and rebuild their team, but they do end up fielding teams that every once in a while join in the hunt for a wild card slot or a division title. Many of baseball's owners, those with the luxury of large checkbooks, do not agree with that statement. And, getting rid of failing ball clubs such as the Expos, the Minnesota Twins and the Kansas City Royals, has been the focus of that aforementioned group of owners.

As part of their Aug. 30 agreement with the MLBPA, the MLB owners have vowed to not contract teams at

least until 2006. They have also agreed to revenue sharing, which allows for the small market clubs to gain assistance from the large market clubs, and a luxury tax – a tax on teams with payrolls at or above an annually increasing amount [starting with \$117 million in 2003]. These three parts of a detailed agreement put together by both the MLBPA and the MLB owners are major victories for ball clubs such as the Expos, Twins and Royals. It shows that the teams do matter and allows for biases to at least remain personal biases. This new agreement will keep some of the MLB's more greedy owners at bay and is a step closer to equality of all teams.

SPORTS

EDITOR

HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

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COMING UP

Soccer

Sept. 4

Men - 7 p.m. vs. Lindenwood

6

Women - 11 a.m. at Ferris State

8

Women - 12:30 p.m. at Ashland

Volleyball

Sept. 6

At CBC College Tournament
[Time to be Announced]

Tennis

Sept. 3

Women - 3 p.m. at SIUE

6

Women - 3 p.m. at Bellarmine

LATEST RESULTS

Volleyball Aug. 30

W - 3-0 vs. CBC College
L - 3-2 vs. Carson Newman

WEB

Check out the R-men and the R-women sports
www.umsi-sports.com

MOVIE REVIEW

Robin Williams gives snapshot of obsession in 'One Hour Photo'

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

★★★★★ out of five stars

In the new suspense film "One Hour Photo," Sy tells us that "snapshot" was originally a hunting term, meaning a quick shot from the hip. This bit of history brings together the film's focus: photography and stalking.

This chilling little thriller concerns itself with a lonely, socially isolated man

who works in a quick photo developing shop inside a big chain retail store. Sy Parrish (Robin Williams) becomes obsessed with a family whose photos he has developed for many years. Sy is a pale ghost of a man, from his pale wispy hair to his pale clothes to his almost invisible manner.

He is quite a perfectionist in his photo developing and clearly considers himself an artist of sorts, but he is frozen in his comfortable position at the Savmart photo counter. The store is his life, but rather than seeking out contact with fellow employees, he gets to know his customers, but only through the photos they bring in to be developed. Sy tells us people only take snapshots of the happy times. No one wants a picture of something they want to forget. Thus he creates an idyllic world of imaginary friendship with his favorite long-time customers, the Yorkins.

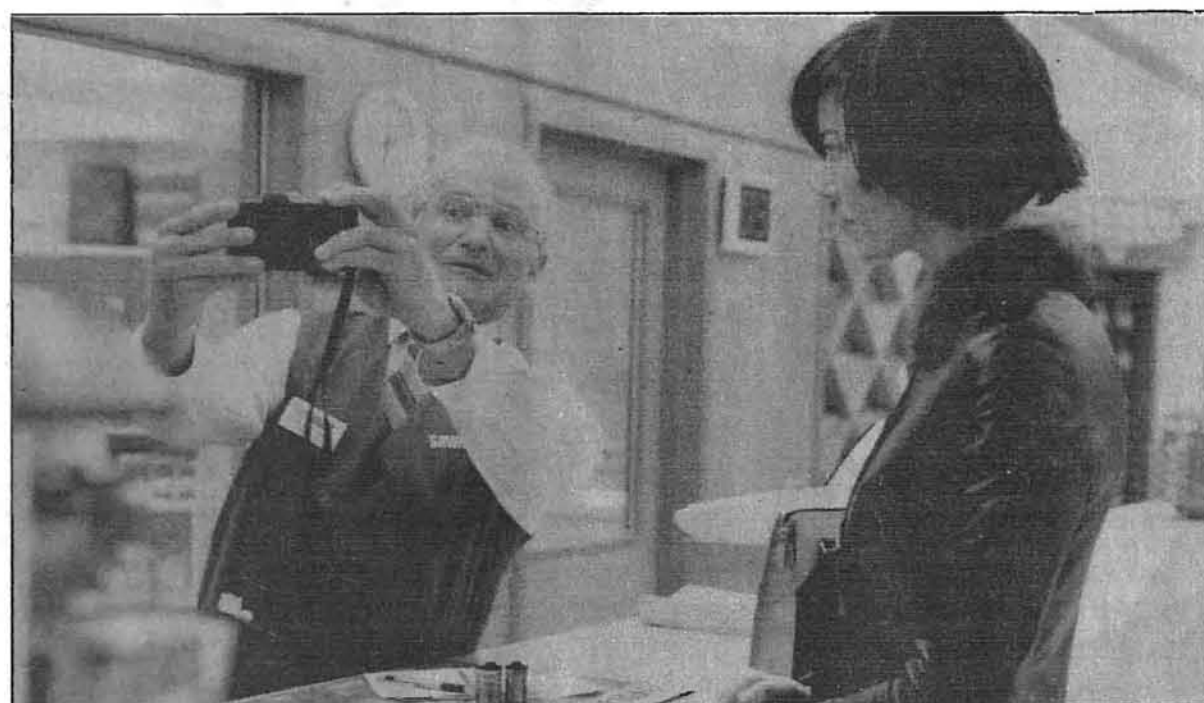
The perfect world of pictures becomes too alluring with the Yorkin family. From years of developing pictures of birthdays, holidays and vacations, and from watching their young

son grow, Sy feels like part of the family of Nina (Connie Nielsen) and Will (Michael Vartan). The perfect lives of their pictures, the long-standing pleasant business relationship with Nina and young Jake (Dylan Smith), who calls him Sy the Photo Guy, leads Sy to fantasize that he is part of the family. He pictures himself in their photos and imagines being called Uncle Sy by Jake. But Sy's growing obsession and increasing boldness leads to the discovery of flaws in the perfect family, flaws that drive him to act.

The suspense is quite taut in this film, bringing to mind such films as "Fatal Attraction" and "Psycho." The film also has a brooding feel of isolation, reflecting writer/director Mark Romanek's inspiration for the story from "loner" films of the seventies like "Taxi Driver." The look of the film is masterfully stylish, with very careful attention to details of framing, lighting and costuming, and the careful pacing of the story as it unfolds. The suspense is gripping, even gut wrenching at times, as the viewer anticipates what might lurk around the next corner. But like the films just mentioned, a great deal of the success of this film rests on the central mad character.

Robin Williams has long been trying to gain acceptance in dramatic roles, first in sympathetic roles like "Patch Adams" and "Bicentennial Man" and more recently as sinister characters in "Death to Smoochy" and the underrated "Insomnia." For Williams, this isn't just a matter of branching out from comedy into drama, which he has long since shown he can do, but perhaps maybe a quest to gain recognition as a great actor. His role in "One Hour Photo" is more than a switch from comedy to drama or even to a less positive character, but a role

'One Hour Photo' is a wonderful suspense film that will raise the hairs on your neck.



Robin Williams plays Sy Parrish in "One Hour Photo." Parrish becomes obsessed with a family whose photos he has developed for many years.

completely against type. Nothing could be less like the irrepressible, lightning-quick, verbally-explosive Robin Williams than the nearly-invisible, quietly controlled, introverted Sy Parrish.

Many will feel Williams succeeded in his quest for acting recognition in this film. His performance is very still, very quiet and very different both from his public persona and, most likely, from his real self. Williams does a remarkable job in dampening down his own mannerisms and well-known exuberance. In support of his performance, the visual elements of the film contribute a great deal to the illusion of the nearly invisible man. Sy's clothes are a washed-out color that seems to blend in with his surroundings.

They are slightly too tight, conservative and very neat, dovetailing with his personality. He is colorless and constrained. William's bleached and

wispy but neatly combed hair and pale face complete the look of the ghostly persona.

But famous performers also bring audience expectations with them to the screen. Film acting is a subtle thing and actors often bring a presence to the screen, which isn't always within their control. Williams has done enough dramatic work that no one expects him to be funny in this film, but within the stillness of Sy, Williams seems to bring a bit of sweetness. This is not a bad thing by itself for this role, but when it later becomes necessary to see menace in this character, it is hard to see the character's dark side. Some might find it difficult to see Sy as an unpredictable unknown, an effect needed to heighten the suspense of

some of the scenes and the effect of the ending. Yet, Williams was convincingly menacing in "Insomnia," where he played a villainous character with a more expressive personality. Perhaps the combination creates too great an obstacle to overcome.

Despite this small reservation, "One Hour Photo" is a wonderful suspense film that will raise the hairs on your neck. It is a welcome film in what may be a trend away from thrillers overly dependent on special effects and towards films driven by plot and stylish filmmaking. Writer/director Mark Romanek has graduated in style from music videos to films. Robin Williams, meanwhile, has created a startling performance, one that may lead filmgoers to see him in a new light that is certain to spark much discussion. "One Hour Photo" is rated R with a running time of 98 minutes.

MOVIE REVIEW



Jennifer Aniston plays a small-town Texas woman named Justine in "The Good Girl."

'Good Girl' is great break for Aniston

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

★★★★★ out of five stars

Who knew Jennifer Aniston could act like this?

Aniston turns in a masterful performance as a small town Texas woman looking in despair at the long road of life ahead of her. Justine (Jennifer Aniston) is thirty, married to her high school sweetheart Phil (John C. Reilly), who works as a house painter with his buddy Bubba (Tim Blake Nelson). Days she works at the Retail Rodeo and evenings she comes home to Bubba and her husband smoking pot while sitting on the couch in paint-spattered overalls.

She and her husband would like to start a family, but so far she hasn't gotten pregnant, and she seems to be questioning this plan now anyway.

She sees only an unwavering road in front of her and longs to deviate from that path. In her bitterness toward her future, she approaches Holden (Jake Gyllenhaal), a young brooding co-worker at the Retail Rodeo, who

seems to share her grim view of the world. When she tells him she hates the world, he says he does too and they both feel a sense of kinship. But life is not so simple. She's thirty and married; he's twenty-two and lives with his parents. While she longs for something else in life, she has no plans to hurt her husband and only the vaguest idea of what she wants to change. She sees herself as a good person, a steady person. However, the chance to talk about her dismal life view is irresistible.

This is a delightful film that mixes reflections on ordinary life and life choices with a strong dose of black humor. Life is never as simple as it seems, and the girl's restlessness contrasts with her intention not to do any harm. What at first seems a random distraction spins out of her control, until she finds herself in a situation she couldn't have imagined. The lively, original story keeps you guessing throughout, with a cautionary whisper to be careful what you wish for, because you just might get it.

The actors are marvelous in this film. Aniston has the accent and mannerisms of a country woman down pat and never comes across as an overblown, absurd parody. This

approach means we can't dismiss her angst and her intelligence, despite her background. You can see the wheels turning in her head as she ponders every new development. Equally good is Jake Gyllenhaal as the soulful-seeming boy who calls himself Holden because he identifies with the character in "Catcher in the Rye." Tim Blake Nelson, who was so wonderful in "O Brother Where Art Thou," is alternately funny and menacing as Bubba, who idolizes Justine's unambitious husband Phil. Other characters are as well drawn, comic or pathetic, without being stereotypes.

The director keeps a firm hand on this excellent cast and dampens down performances into a nicely underplayed symphony. No matter how over-the-top the events might be, the restrained performances prevail, which boosts the humor and humanity as well. This is one of the better films I have seen this year, being that rare combination of good story, good acting and good directing that we all hope for.

The role may be totally unlike her previous work, but thinking filmgoers will delight in this marvelous little film.

GAME REVIEW

Strange and powerful forces

CHARLIE BRIGHT
SENIOR WRITER

Have you ever wanted to play a superhero game where your superpower had something to do with flatulence? Well now you can. In "Freedom Force," from Irrational Games, the Golden Age of comics comes alive with graphics that will have you saying "Gee-Whiz," "Bap!" and "Foosh!"

The plot is somewhat stolen (good-

"Freedom Force" uses dozens of character models that range from "muscle-bound guy in a thong" to "woman who will soon develop chronic back problems," both classic figures in superhero literature. The best part is that these models can be "skinned" with user-made art to look like anything from the X-Men to some grotesque caricature of yourself. Considering the people who do most of the skinning, there is a preponderance of scantily-clad heroine and tubby hero skins, but there is just enough variety to satisfy any connoisseur of the hero genre.

My personal creation was "Awesome Guy," whose motto was "Wonder Woman says I'm better than Superman." Awesome Guy left the heroes that came with the game in his foul-smelling dust, except for "Hot Girl," who didn't have any powers but followed him with the tenacity of a Hollywood stalker.

Creating heroes is, without a doubt, the best part of this game, and an absolute blast. There's nothing like killing an enemy with "Head Butt" or "Stinky-foot in Your Eye," two of the custom powers I used to

defeat the game's arch villains. I played this game for about two weeks straight, not eating, showering, or doing any other "necessary" functions for human life. By the time Awesome Guy saved the universe, I felt that I had special powers. My skin was mostly transparent, I'd lost much of my hair, and there was a peculiar odor that neighbors insisted was lethal. Entertainment and superpowers for 40 bucks? What a deal! Beware citizens, thanks to "Freedom Force," there is a Super Charlie on the loose in St. Louis. He was last spotted at Del Taco demanding burritos and Wonder Woman's phone number.



naturally) from comic classics and features dialogue that would have Superman rolling his eyes. The Ant (Spiderman, anyone?) has such memorable lines as, "Did anyone call for an ant?"

If all of this sounds dull, remember the flatulence. This game really shines in its variety of superhero powers, allowing you to create and stylize any type of ability you can imagine. By combining Internet resources and legions of lard-based life forms known as "geeks," this game's potential increases exponentially (for those of you who aren't geeks, that means a lot).

A&E

EDITOR

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A&E Editor

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fax: 516-6811

A&E Calendar

Movies September

6

Swimfan—thriller in style of

"Fatal Attraction"

City by the Sea—thriller based

on true story, Robert DeNiro

Happy Times—Chinese lan-

guage comedy, directed by leg-

endary Zhang Yimou

Flesh Gordon—Tivoli midnight

series (Sept. 6, 7, 13 & 14

only).

13

Stealing Harvard—comedy

with Jason Lee

Barbershop—comedy, Ice

Cube, Cedric the Entertainer

Transporter—crime

action/thriller from director

Luc Besson

Bigby Goes Down—Indie come-

dy with Kiernan Culkin

Donnie Darko—Tivoli midnight

series (Sept. 13, 14, 20 & 21

only)

20

Four Feathers—historical

drama with Heath Ledger

Trapped—thriller with Kevin

Bacon and Charlize Theron

Banger Sisters—'60s groupie's

reunion with Goldie Hawn and

Susan Sarandon.

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September 11

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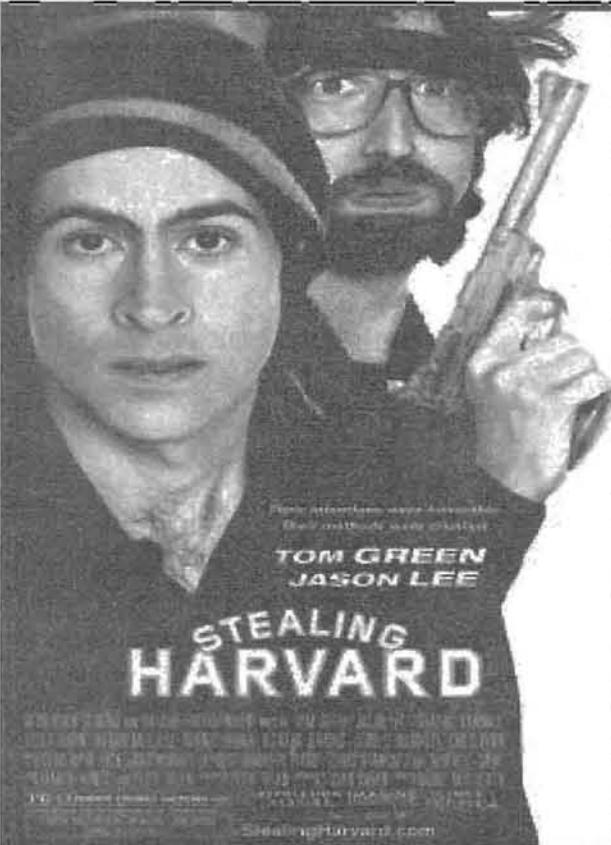
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Explaining everything?

Steven Wolfram believes that he has come up with a way to explain the whole universe. Sound unbelievable? Ask the many eager readers who placed Wolfram's book "A New Kind of Science" at the top of the Internet sales lists in May of this year.



BY MICAH ISSITT
Science Columnist

Thousands of scientists and science fans have been waiting years for Wolfram's book to become available, and the big reason is that Wolfram claims his research marks the beginning of a new field of science that will lead us to understand the entirety of the universe and how it developed to its current state.

Since at least the time of the ancient Egyptian empire, people have believed that the answers to our questions about the universe must lie in the realm of mathematics. Steven Wolfram, a successful mathematician and physicist, tends to agree. His theory concerns the underlying mathematical form of, well, everything.

Wolfram's theory is based on the mathematics of what are called "cellular automata." This mathematical program is sort of like laying tiles on a kitchen floor. You start to cover the floor with black and white tiles, but instead of just alternating black, white, black...etc, you make up a clever rule for how you are going to lay them. Wolfram's "tiling" rule is called "rule 110." It sounds a bit complicated, but is as easy as a child's game, and from rule 110 Wolfram believes that the secrets of the universe unfold.

The rule goes like this: Place a white tile if the one you put down before it was black and its two neighbors are all black or all white, or if the last one was white and the two neighbors are black and white respectively; otherwise lay down a black one.

This may sound kind of complicated, and it takes some familiarity to understand it, but Wolfram runs the program on his computer and lets it run for hours and hours, laying down millions of computer generated "tiles."

As his program lays tiles, predictable patterns dominate for a while, looking somewhat like a chessboard, but then, suddenly, strange patterns

start to appear. The computer is still following the same rule laying white, black, white, white, white, black, and so on, but the pattern changes dramatically. Within a short time, all kinds of interesting patterns emerge. Eventually the screen is filled with non-repeating random patterns that move and change as they pass through the computer's memory.

Cellular automata have been around for centuries. They have been used in art and architecture, and in the last half-century have become a favorite pastime of mathematicians, but no one before Wolfram had ever taken the automata program so far. Wolfram took his program millions of steps beyond any that had previously been attempted.

As he watched spontaneous patterns being generated on his computer screen, Wolfram began to see possibilities for how these mathematical rules might be working behind the physical universe, creating the form and pattern that gives rise to biological organisms, physical laws, and even human mental patterns.

Over the next eight years or so, Wolfram spent every spare moment working out the implications of his ideas for all possible fields of science, from chemistry to evolution.

Wolfram already has his share of passionate critics. Biologists have been particularly vocal on the matter. Evolutionary theorists have suggested that while Wolfram's theory may be key to understanding the laws of physics, rule 110 is much too simple to be responsible for the creation of anything as complex as biological form.

Wolfram says he understands his critics' objections, but contends that his theory may eventually be powerful enough to cover phenomenon like biological evolution, though it will likely take decades to work out all the details. Many scientists agree that even if Wolfram's theory won't live up to the author's expectations, rule 110 will still be a very important part of the next century of scientific discovery.

One of the most exciting things about cellular automata and its many possible applications is that, as a science, it is still in its infancy. This means that there will be ample opportunities for many young theorists to get in on the ground level and to have their hands in the building of a new scientific discipline.

Even if Wolfram is not a hundred percent correct about rule 110's potential, he is correct when he asserts that this is an exciting time for science. It is once again an age of basic and monumental discovery, and those who have the interest and the motivation can be a part of it, earning themselves a place in the history of science, and therefore the history of human discovery.

SGA Elections, from page 1

"More specifically the School of Optometry and the School of Nursing could not make it at all on Tuesdays. So, neither one of those entire schools were ever represented last year," Andemariam said.

The monthly meetings being held on Fridays for the rest of the school year is not yet official, as the newly elected chairperson is to make the final decision of when the next meeting is to take place.

Aside from the elections, Andemariam discussed some upcoming events and the SGA website that has been updated over the summer.

The website can be reached through the UM-St. Louis homepage

by clicking on "Current Students" and scrolling down to "Student Government." Meeting minutes, letters, press releases, contact information and a calendar of upcoming events can be found on the site. There is also a change of officer form available on the site for UMSL organizations in the event that they need to change SGA representative information. From there, the form can be submitted and sent directly to Student Services Advisor Deni Kiehl.


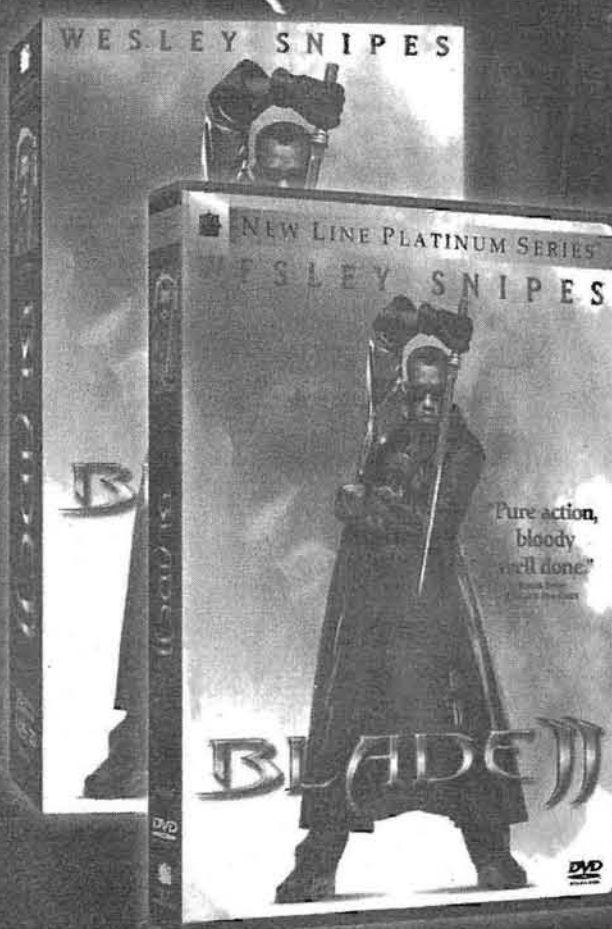
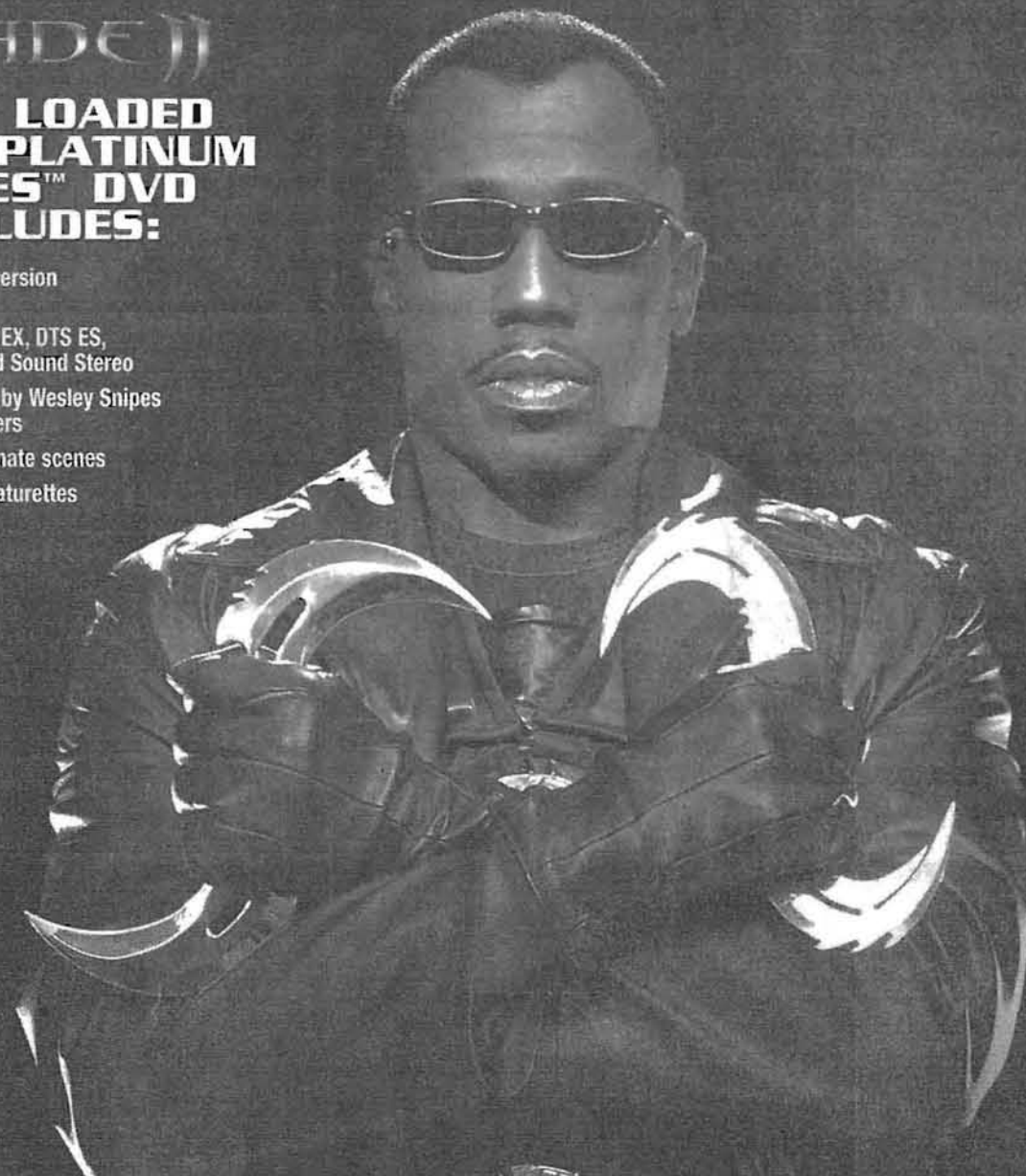
"This is very simple. There is no reason why organizations should have wrong names on the attendance list and so on all year around," Andemariam said.

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LIFEGUARDS

CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS needed for UMSL Indoor Swimming Pool this Fall. Afternoon, evening & weekend hours available. Pay is \$6.15 per hour. Apply in the Rec Sports Office, 203 Mark Twain. Call 516-5326 for more info.

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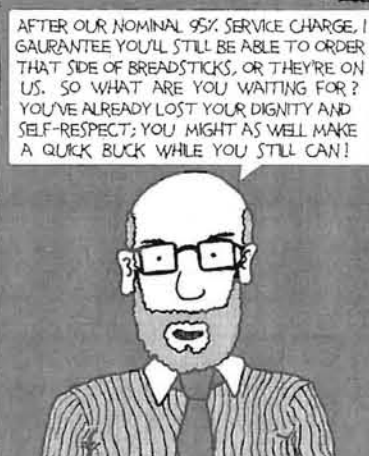
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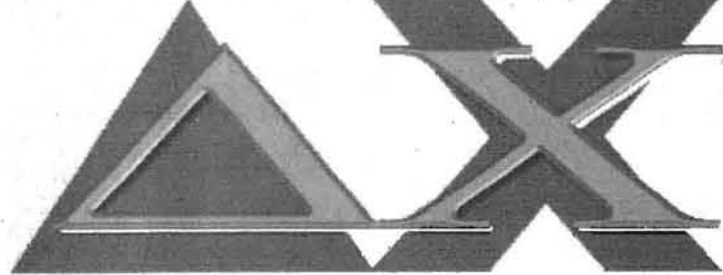
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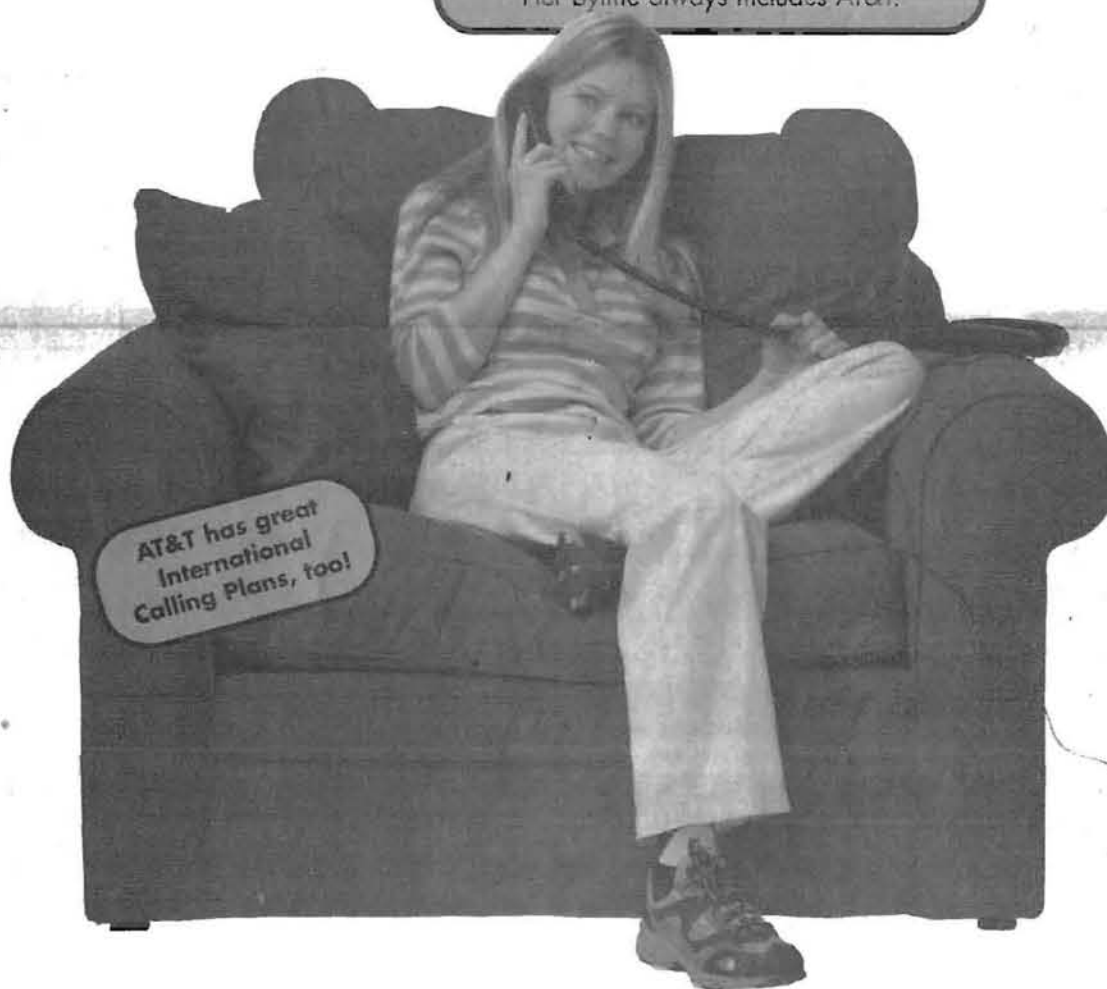
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Announcement of nomination to

Who's Who

among students in

American Universities & Colleges

an annual honors program recognizing our nation's leading college students

Nominations are currently being accepted for students who will be included in the 2002-03 Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges directory. If you are a student with a record of outstanding academic and extracurricular achievement, you may qualify to be honored by this prestigious national collegiate tradition.

To be considered, nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Be a senior or a graduate student
- Have an above average academic standing
- Have made contributions in academic and extracurricular activities
- Have demonstrated leadership, citizenship and service to the school and the community
- Show potential for future achievement

Students may nominate themselves or each other by:

1. Picking up a nomination form at a dean's office or 366 Millennium Student Center
2. Completing the form
3. Returning the form by Friday, October 4, 2002 to the dean's office of the school or college in which you are enrolled.

Nominations submitted after this date will not be accepted!

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Student Activities at 516-5291.

Speaker gives a three-step program to a 4.0

By SARA PORTER
Senior Writer

Motivational Speaker Donna O. Johnson presented a seminar on how to achieve a 4.0 average on Saturday, August 24. In the program she presented three steps that she says will help students achieve a high grade average, even if they are under stress.

"The reality of it is life happens," Johnson said. "We pretend stress is not normal, but we cannot pretend everything is going to be all right."

Instead of pretending that it will go away you work with it."

The three steps, Johnson says, are to go to class, to see the professors once a week, and to do work when it is supposed to be done. Johnson believes that even though these steps seem obvious to people, they are not always followed. "People sometimes act like school is optional, but it isn't," she said. "Once you are at school, school is your job."

There are several reasons why students should attend their classes, Johnson said. "If you pay one hundred dollars for a class and you don't go, then you are taking the money and throwing it away," she said. "Also, you miss critical first hand information that you need."

Johnson said that it is important for students to sit in the front of the class, so they can be provided with fewer distractions and give the impression that they are interested. "Professors will scan the room and look at the front row," Johnson said. "When they see the front row of interested students, they often think 'those are my A students.'"

FRESHMAN, from page 3

Few have suggested that a course may be difficult, but they will stay determined.

"I was really happy when I found out about some of the diverse classes that the school has to offer. Chinese is probably going to be my hardest class," freshmen Liz Rudloff said.

UM- St. Louis has really been supportive and has made everyone feel comfortable by offering numerous activities for students and faculty mem-



Group study is an effective strategy of as UMSL students **Tori Caldwell, David Palmer and Laurie Bainter (lying on ground) dis-** play.

Students who want to do well in their studies should also develop a personal relationship with their professors by going to see them, Johnson said. "If you demonstrate an interest in the subject then you will receive interest in the class."

Many people have difficulties getting along with their instructors, but Johnson said that students should disregard that. "Your objective is not to like the professor, but it is to know what they know, for his or her learning process."

The final step, to do work early, features a learning process called Bullet Point Reading. Bullet Point reading consists of reading a section 24 hours before class, stopping, and then sum-

marizing the section in three to five words and continuing, each time reviewing everything learned. Johnson also demonstrated Bullet Point Notes, which involved note taking in the bullet point system, and Bullet Point Concepts, which is to summarize why an answer is right by explaining the process.

Johnson said that the Bullet Point system is very beneficial to studying. "It forces you to pay attention, it puts the information in your own words and in a concise format."

"Every challenge can be faced by staying on plan," Johnson said.

Johnson will return from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on September 21, in room 122 of SSB for a follow up 4.0 seminar. Admission is free.

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